



Liberty for All: Voices from the American Revolution

The Declaration of Independence

Original Document:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.— That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Modified Document:

We [believe] that all men are created equal, that [God gives them] certain [fundamental] Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

That to secure these rights, Governments are [established] among Men, [and get their power from] the consent of the governed.

Main Idea in Your Own Words:



Discuss:

How might this statement have inspired less powerful members of colonial society (including African Americans, women, and men without property)? _____

What might these groups have wanted from the Revolution? _____
